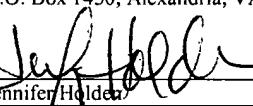


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MINO et al. Examiner: KOPPIKAR, VIVEK D.
Serial No.: 10/055,667 Group Art Unit: 1775
Filed: January 22, 2002 Docket: 10873.876US01
Confirmation No.: 8002 Notice of Allow.
Date:
Due Date:
Title: ALIGNED FINE PARTICLES, METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME AND DEVICE
USING THE SAME

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 5, 2004.

By 
Name: Jennifer Holder

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

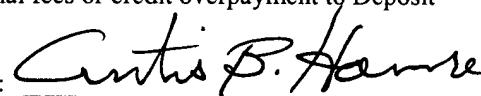
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 4 References
- Check in the amount of \$180 for IDS Filing Fee
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 
Name: Curtis B. Hamre
Reg. No.: 29,165
DPM/jh



S/NO 10/055,667

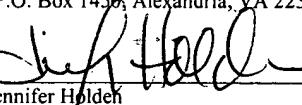
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	MINO et al.	Examiner:	KOPPIKAR, VIVEK D.
Serial No.:	10/055,667	Group Art Unit:	1775
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By: 
Name: Jennifer Holden

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 or after any other action that closes prosecution on the application, but before the payment of the issue fee. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$180 for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). This statement is submitted as certified below under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2) by the undersigned.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) or § 1.97(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application within three months of filing this statement.

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180.00 DP

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, no patent term adjustment is due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

U.S. 5,277,980 corresponds with Japanese reference 2-9196, which was previously cited and submitted in the IDS filed in this case May 2, 2002.

U.S. 5,527,663 corresponds with Japanese reference 4-274308, which was previously cited and submitted in the IDS filed in this case March 15, 2004.

Both U.S. references submitted herewith were cited in a Japanese Office Action dated March 5, 2004, which was submitted in this case with the IDS filed March 5, 2004.

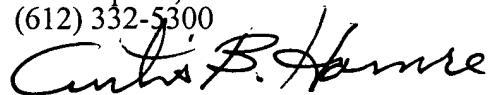
No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

By: 
Curtis B. Hamre
Reg. No. 29,165

Dated: April 5, 2004

DPM/jh



<p>FORM 142 O P E INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)</p> <p>APR 12 2004 P A T E N T O F F I C E</p>	Docket Number:	Application Number:
	10873.876US01	10/055,667
	Applicant: MINO et al.	
Filing Date: January 22, 2002		Group Art Unit: 1775

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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